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Message Text

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15
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 IGA-02 EA-11 IO-14 SWF-02

OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /169 W
---------- 041934
P R 110730Z APR 74
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6477
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 1899

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SG, US, OAU, FR
SUBJ: AF/W DIRECTOR'S CALL ON SENGHOR

REF: PARIS 8521

SUMMARY: DURING COURTEST CALL APR 9 BY AF/W DIRECTOR LOUGHRAN, PRESIDENT SENGHOR EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR US PLANS TO PROVIDE SENEGAL MEDIUM TERM DROUGHT RELIEF; CRITIZED MEAGER AID CURRENTLY PROVIDED BY ARAB STATES; EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR CHICOMS OVER SOVIETS; REVEALED OAU FOREIGN MINISTERS AT KAMPALA HAD ENDORSED M'BOW CANDIDACY TO BE UNESCO DG; AND WARNED SHOULD MITTERAND WIN FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, SENEGAL WOULD MAINTAIN CERTAIN DISTANCE FROM NEW PARIS REGIME. END SUMMARY

1. RECEIVING AF/W DIRECTOR LOUGHRAN ON APR 9, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR, PRESIDENT SENGHOR NOTED HIS PLEASURE THAT FORMER DCM IN DAKAR AND SEVERAL OTHER US DIP-LOMATS WHO HAD SERVED IN SENEGAL NOW HELD POSITIONS OF TRUST IN DEPT. HE ASKED THAT LOUGHRAN RECIPROCATE GREETING AND
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BEST WISHES HE BROUGHT FROM DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY BROWN

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AND ASST SECRETARY EASUM. LOUGHRAN AND AMB
DESCRIBED HIGHLIGHTS OF ABIDJAN COM MEETING AND NOTED
THAT LATTER HAD FULLY BRIEFED PRIMIN DIOUF ON MISSION
OF AID LIVESTOCK AND CEREALS DESIGN TEAMS. SENGHOR
PLEASED WITH NEWS OF SENEGAL'S PROSPECTS FOR SIGNIFICANT
MEDIUM-TERM AID. HE CONTRASTED US GESTURE WITH RECENT
PROPOSALS OF ARAB STATES FOR AID TO AFRICA, AMOUNTS
WHICH HE SAID WERE SMALLER THAN FRANCE'S ANNUAL
ASSISTANCE TO SENEGAL.

2. SOVIET TACTICS IN SENEGAL WERE ROUNDLY CRITIZED BY
SENGHOR IN DISCUSSING PLANS FOR HIS MAY TRIP TO PEOPLES
REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND INDIA. CONTRASTED WITH CHINESE,
WHOM HE SAID HAD BEEN QUITE CORRECT, SOVIETS' MAIN
MISSION IN SENEGAL APPEARED TO BE ESPIONAGE. IN FACT,
HE NOW SOUGHT EXCUSE TO CLOSE "TROUBLESOME" SOVIET
INFORMATION CENTER. SENEGAL TOLERATED SIZEABLE SOVIET
MISSION HERE WHERE IT COULD BE WATCHED AS MEANS OF
LIMITING ANTI-SENEGALESE ACTIVITIES OF SOVIET MISSION IN
CONAKRY, HE SAID. SENGHOR REALIZED US AND SOVIET UNION
MUST DIALOGUE IN INTEREST OF WORLD PEACE, BUT HE CON-
SIDERED SOVIETS HAD PROVED TO BE RACISTS IN THEIR
ATTITUDES TOWARD AFRICAN STATES. CHINESE LESS WELL KNOWN
QUANTITY IN THAT RESPECT.

3. WHEN AMBASSADOR ASKED WHETHER THERE ANY NEWS OF OAU
ACTION ON THE M'BOW CANDIDACY FOR UNESCO DIRECTOR-
GENERALSHIP, SENGHOR PRODUCED TELEGRAM WHICH INDICATED
FOREIGN MINISTERS VOTED ENDORESEMENT AT KAMPALA MEETING.
HE AVERRED MATTER MIGHT ALSO BE DISCUSSED AT OAU SUMMIT
IN MOGADISCIO, BUT GIVEN CURRENT ETHIOPIAN CRISIS, HE
QUESTIONED CHOICE OF SOMALIA AS SITE.

4. PRESIDENT SENGHOR WAS DISTRESSED BY FRENCH POLITICAL
SITUATION IN WHICH HE FELT MITTERAND'S CHANCES MARKEDLY
ENHANCEDDUE LACK OF AGREEMENT ON SINGLE MODERATE CANDIAATE
TOOPPOSE SOCIALIST-COMMUNIST UNITED FRONT. WHILE HE KNEW
MITTERAND FROM FOURTH REPUBLIC DAYS AND CONSIDERED HIM
ESSENTIALLY BOURGEOIS, HE COULD NOT DO BUSINESS WITH
FRENCH COMMUNISTS THAT A MITTERAND VICTORY WOULD BRING
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INTO NATIONAL OFFICES. SHOULD MITTERAND WIN, SENEGAL
WOULD HAVE TO MAINTAIN CERTAIN DISTANCE FROM PARIS.

COMMENT: IN DIFINITELY PENSIVE MOOD FOLLOWING DEATH
OF HIS LONG-TIME FRIEND POMPIDOU, SENGHOR LOOKED FORWARD
TO INTELLECTUAL CHALLENGE OF VISIT TO WORLD'S TWO MOST
POPULOUS NATIONS. IT CLEAR HE NEVER FORGAVE SOVIETS
FOR ABORTED 1972 VISIT AND FEELS THEY SEEK MORE RADICAL

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SENEGALESE REGIME.
AGGREY

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